

Tires...

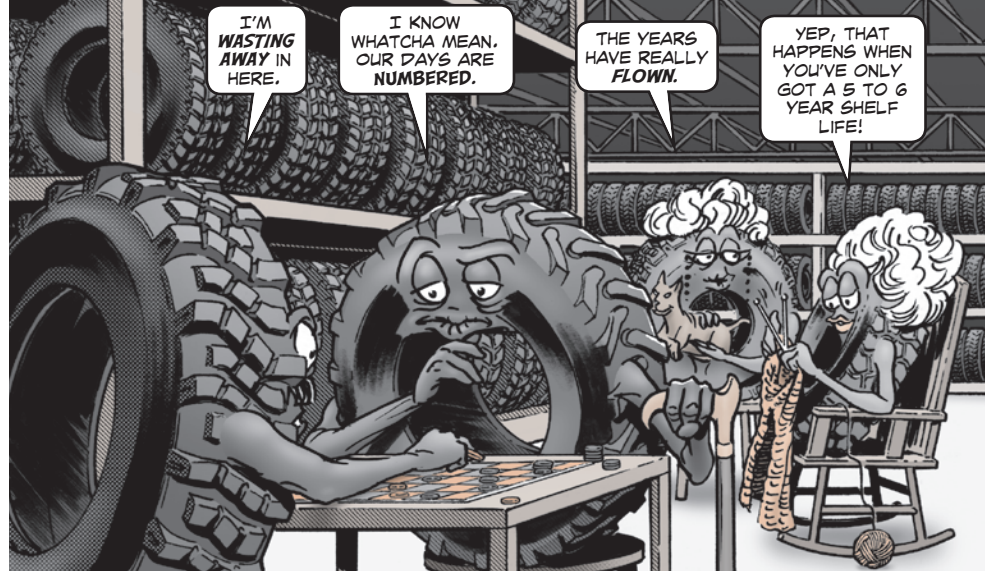
AGE IS NO SECRET! READ THE NUMBERS

I'M
WASTING
AWAY IN
HERE.

I KNOW
WHATCHA MEAN.
OUR DAYS ARE
NUMBERED.

THE YEARS
HAVE REALLY
FLOWN.

YEP, THAT
HAPPENS WHEN
YOU'VE ONLY
GOT A 5 TO 6
YEAR SHELF
LIFE!

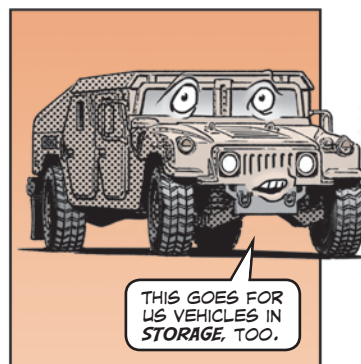


AS TIRES AGE, REGULAR
INSPECTIONS BECOME MORE
IMPORTANT THAN EVER!

AS PART OF
YOUR VEHICLE'S
REGULAR
PMCS, INSPECT
TIRES FOR

- cracks
- bulges
- damage
- low inflation
- and
- uneven wear

**REPLACE
TIRES WHEN
NECESSARY.**



14

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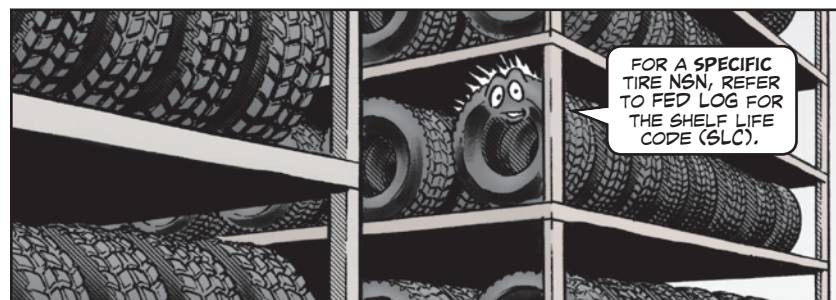
YOU'LL FIND MORE GUIDANCE IN
TM 9-2610-200-14, CARE, MAINTENANCE,
REPAIR AND INSPECTION OF PNEUMATIC TIRES
AND INNER TUBES (SEP 05) AS WELL AS
YOUR VEHICLE'S -10 TM.

Tires Have a Shelf Life?

YES. DEPENDING ON THE TYPE, TIRES
HAVE EITHER A 5-YEAR OR 6-YEAR SHELF
LIFE FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
GROUND VEHICLES. SEE CHART BELOW.



Tire Category	Tire Shelf Life from Date of Mfg (Years)
Radial military tires (including 37X12.50R16.5LT HMMWV, 395/85R20, 14.00R20, 16.00R20 and other military specific sizes)	6
Radial commercial medium truck (including Group 3 truck-bus CATL-1922)	6
Radial and bias earthmover/off-road/material handling equipment/construction (including tire & rim designation E-1/E-2/E-3/E-4/E-7/G-1/G-2/G-3/G-4/L-2/L-3/L-4/L-5 and CATL-1923)	6
Radial and bias agricultural rear (R-1,R-2,R-3,R-4) and front tires for industrial tractors (I-3, F-3)	6
Passenger	5
Light truck	5
ATV	5
Garden	5
Industrial	5
Agricultural (front [F-1, F-2] & implement [I-1, I-2])	5
Solid	5
Bias military tires	5
Bias commercial truck	5



PS 788

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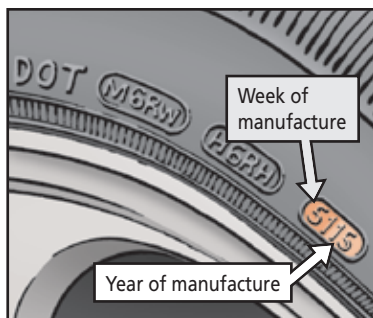


THE DATE OF MANUFACTURE IS IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT) CODE STAMPED ON THE TIRE SIDEWALL.

THE CODE STARTS WITH THE LETTERS "DOT."

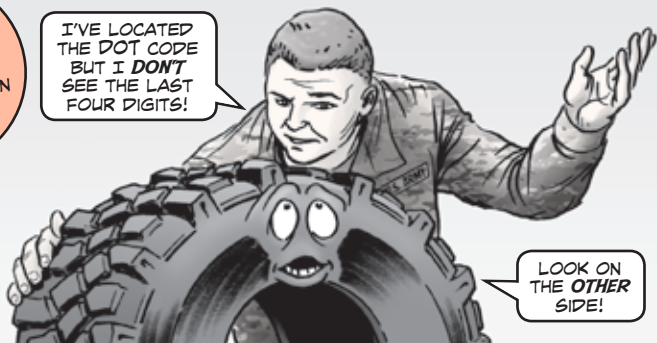
THE **LAST FOUR NUMBERS** IN THE STRING OF CHARACTERS INDICATE THE **WEEK** AND **YEAR** THE TIRE WAS **MANUFACTURED**.

FOR EXAMPLE, A CODE ENDING IN THE NUMBERS "5115" MEANS THAT THE TIRE WAS MANUFACTURED IN THE **51ST** WEEK OF **2015**. SO, THAT TIRE MUST BE PUT INTO SERVICE **NO LATER THAN** THE 51ST WEEK OF 2020 FOR A 5-YEAR SHELF LIFE OR THE 51ST WEEK OF 2021 FOR A 6-YEAR SHELF LIFE.



Remember:
THE **LAST FOUR NUMBERS** FOR THE DOT CODE **ONLY** APPEAR ON **ONE SIDE** OF THE TIRE.

I'VE LOCATED THE DOT CODE BUT I **DON'T** SEE THE LAST FOUR DIGITS!



LOOK ON THE **OTHER** SIDE!

Shelf Life vs. Service Life

TIRE SHELF LIFE APPLIES WHEN A TIRE IS MANUFACTURED AND STORED IN A WAREHOUSE, STORED AS A TIRE/WHEEL ASSEMBLY OR STORED ELSEWHERE. THE SHELF LIFE OF TIRE/WHEEL ASSEMBLIES WITH NEW (UNUSED) TIRES IS 5 OR 6 YEARS FROM DATE OF MANUFACTURE OF THE TIRE. WHEN A TIRE IS MOUNTED ON A WHEEL, THE TIRE SHELF LIFE STILL APPLIES AND THE TIRE STILL AGES.

TIRE SERVICE LIFE IS THE **CUMULATIVE LIFE OF THE TIRE** FROM WHEN IT IS MANUFACTURED, THEN STORED (SHELF LIFE) AND FINALLY PUT INTO SERVICE ON A VEHICLE. THERE IS **NO PRE-DETERMINED SERVICE LIFE** FOR TIRES. THIS IS BECAUSE SERVICE LIFE DEPENDS ON MANY FACTORS SUCH AS TEMPERATURE, STORAGE CONDITIONS, AND USE (LOAD, SPEED, INFLATION PRESSURE, IMPACTS, ROAD HAZARDS, ETC.).

FOR TIRES IN SERVICE ON A VEHICLE, TIRE MANUFACTURERS RECOMMEND **REPLACING** TIRES (INCLUDING SPARES) THAT ARE 10-YEARS OR OLDER FROM THE DATE OF MANUFACTURE.

THIS RECOMMENDATION APPLIES **EVEN IF** THE TIRES APPEAR SERVICEABLE AND THE TREAD IS NOT WORN.

